



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –March 5, 2008

Contact: Jamal Ware  
(202) 225-4121

## **Hoekstra: Democrats Fail on FISA Again**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – *U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement after Democrat leaders announced they would once again fail to hold a vote to modernize and strengthen America's terrorist surveillance laws:*

“First Democrats asked for a six month extension, then two weeks, and then they requested a 21-day extension that would have expired this weekend if it was granted. Despite saying last year that fixing FISA was a top priority for Speaker Pelosi, Democrats have failed over-and-over again to get the job done. Because Democrats have failed on national security, Congress will adjourn for another week without passing terrorist surveillance reform, and America, our troops in combat, our embassies and Foreign Service officers abroad, and our allies will continue to grow more vulnerable.

“Today, congressional Democrat leaders in effect told America that our national security can wait—wait while they bicker amongst themselves and name post offices across the country.

“As Admiral Mike McConnell, director of national intelligence, and Senator Rockefeller have warned, our nation's terrorist surveillance capabilities continue to diminish the longer the House majority refuses to schedule a vote on the Senate bill.

“Rather than further delay, stalling with staff meetings or devising legislative schemes, the majority leadership should allow the House to vote on the one bill that has overwhelming, bipartisan backing. The votes exist to get this done, the only standing in the way are the partisan considerations of the majority and their trial lawyer allies. The national security interests of the United States should never have to play second fiddle to Washington political whims.”